

Congressman Childers, President of MS Farm Bureau to Participate in Ag Field Hearings

May 14, 2010

Washington, DC – Beginning tomorrow, Saturday, May 15, and ending Tuesday, May 18, the House Agriculture Committee will hold field hearings about the 2012 Farm Bill. U.S. Rep. Travis Childers (MS-01) will directly participate in the hearings on both Monday and Tuesday, and has invited David Waide, president of the Mississippi Farm Bureau Federation, to serve on a panel of experts during Saturday's hearings, which the Congressman is unable to attend.

"Agriculture is the backbone of Mississippi's economy and local communities, and it's essential that the Ag Committee takes the interests of our state's farmers into account while drafting the 2010 Farm Bill," said Childers. "I look forward to participating in these hearings to address important concerns, such as farmers' access to affordable crop insurance and inequalities within the SURE program that allocate disproportionate funding to states.

"While I'm unable to attend Saturday's hearings, it's critical that the voices of Mississippi farmers are heard. Mr. Waide is a strong and effective leader for our state's agriculture community, and I'm confident that his testimony will reflect the importance of protecting our farmers' interests and the great contribution they make to our country. I will continue to be a partner to the Mississippi Farm Bureau in our efforts to support Mississippi's agriculture industry."

"I want to thank Congressman Childers for including me in these two programs," Waide said. "I look forward to discussing those issues that must be addressed by our agricultural community as we prepare to write this most important piece of legislation."

At the hearings, a wide range of the agriculture community, including Mr. Waide, will testify as to what portions of the 2008 Farm Bill are working, what portions are not working, and how needed changes can best be incorporated into the upcoming 2012 legislation.

Saturday's hearings will be held in Troy, Ala . Monday's and Tuesday's hearings will be Lubbock, Texas and Sioux Falls, S.D., respectively.

*A pro-gun, pro-life Mississippian, Congressman Travis Childers (D-MS) represents the First Congressional District in North Mississippi. He is a member of the fiscally conservative Blue Dog Coalition and serves on the House Agriculture and Financial Services Committee. Congressman Childers co-chairs the reestablished bipartisan Congressional Rural Caucus and was appointed to the bipartisan Second Amendment Task Force. For more information, visit [w
www.childers.house.gov](http://www.childers.house.gov)*

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